



PRESS NOTICE

REGINALD I. LLOYD UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*1441 Main Street, Suite 500 * Columbia, SC 29201 * (803) 929-3000**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON: KEVIN F. MCDONALD
(803) 929-3000

MYRTLE BEACH MAN GETS 15 YEARS FOR DRUGS AND GUNS

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Reginald I. Lloyd stated that Bernard Ford, age 52, of Myrtle Beach, was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison for possessing drugs with the intent to distribute them while armed with firearms.

In May 2006, Myrtle Beach Police officers stopped Ford's car after he ran a stop sign. The officers searched the car after smelling marijuana coming from inside it. The search resulted in the seizure of 30 grams of marijuana, 20 grams of crack cocaine, and 8 grams of powder cocaine. Officers also found two guns and ammunition in the car.

Ford has multiple prior drug convictions and is prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm or ammunition.

The case was investigated by the Myrtle Beach Police Department and agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Rose Mary Parham of the Florence office as a part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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